Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014

Message Text

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY WARSAW PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 140414

FOR BROWN FROM ANDREWS--REPLY FOR EUR/EE ONLY, 3 COPIES

E.O. 11652: XGDS-3,4

TAGS: OGEN

SUBJECT: OFFICIAL-INFORMAL

1. FREEDOM OF MOVEMENT DEMARCHE. IT HAS NOW BEEN DECIDED THAT GEORGE VEST WILL MAKE THE DEMARCHE TO SPASOWSKI INFORMALLY AND TECHNICALLY OFF-THE-RECORD. THE AMBASSADOR WANTS TO SEE HIM FOR A TOUR D'HORIZON JUNE 7. VEST WILL MAKE THE DEMARCHE PRIVATELY AFTER THEIR DISCUSSION.

2. WE HAVE ADJUSTED OUR TACTICS ON THIS BECAUSE SPASOWSKI TOLD BILL LUERS AT LUNCH MAY 29 THAT A FORMAL DEMARCHE WOULD HAVE TO BE REPORTED THROUGH CHANNELS AND, AS CABLES ARE SIMULTANEOUSLY DISSEMINATED TO VARIOUS PARTY AND GOVERNMENT OFFICES IN WARSAW, THE BUREAUCRATS (READ: HARD-LINERS) WOULD SEIZE UPON THE MESSAGE TO DIG IN THEIR HEELS. WITHOUT PROMISING SUCCESS, SPASOWSKI INDICATED THAT IF HE WERE APPROACHED INFORMALLY, HE COULD TAKE OUR MESSAGE
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DIRECTLY TO GIEREK AND SEEK TO ENGAGE THE LATTER'S PERSONAL ATTENTION, WHICH IS ESSENTIAL. WE BELIEVE SPASOWSKI'S COMMENTS AND RECOMMENDATION ARE CONSISTENT WITH WHAT WE HAVE SEEN OF HIM SO FAR, AND WE BELIEVE HIS APPROACH IS WORTH A TRY. IF IT FAILS, WE STILL HAVE OUR OTHER OPTIONS.

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2. CONGRESSMAN NEDZI. WE HAVE QUERIED H AND CONGRESSIONAL STAFFERS TO GET SOME FEEL FOR THE CONGRESSMAN'S INTERESTS AND STYLE, IN RESPONSE TO YOUR REQUEST TO CARL SCHMIDT. NEDZI IS VIEWED AS A DELIGHTFUL, SERIOUS, LOW-KEY PERSON. HE IS A GOOD TRAVELER AND IS GENUINELY INTERESTED IN POLAND AND US-POLISH RELATIONS. HE SPEAKS GOOD POLISH, ACCORDING TO STAFFERS WHO HAVE HEARD HIM CONVERSE IN THE LANGUAGE BUT DO NOT KNOW IT THEMSELVES. HIS WIFE, A GOOD "IRISH WOMAN" IS EQUALLY PERSONABLE AND SERIOUS MINDED.

3. YOU PROBABLY HAVE NOTED THAT THE CONGRESSMAN COMES FROM A HEAVILY ETHNIC, WORKING-CLASS DISTRICT TO THE NORTHEAST OF DETROIT. WE UNDERSTAND HIS DISTRICT IS ABOUT 9 PERCENT POLISH. HE MAY BE INTERESTED IN GENERAL MOTORS AND DOW COOPERATION WITH POLAND, ALTHOUGH PERHAPS AS MUCH FROM THE INTERESTS OF LABOR AS OF MANAGEMENT.

4. CONGRESSMAN ROSTENKOWSKI'S OFFICE HAS BEEN WORKING CLOSELY WITH CONGRESSMAN NEDZI IN PREPARATION FOR HIS TRIP. HE HAS A CLEAR UNDERSTANDING OF HIS ROLE AS THE PRESIDENT'S REPRESENTATIVE TO THE POZNAN FAIR AND TAKES IT SERIOUSLY. HE WOULD BE INTERESTED IN OUTSIDE APPOINTMENTS AND ACTIVITIES DURING THE WEEK HE IS IN POLAND, PARTICULARLY IF THIS SERVES EMBASSY AND USG INTERESTS. HE HAS NO PARTICULAR PERSONAL PLANS, ALTHOUGH CONFIDENTIAL

HE WILL CONTACT RELATIVES LIVING OUTSIDE WARSAW AT SOME POINT DURING HIS STAY.

5. NEDZI IS A MEMBER OF THE ARMED SERVICES COMMITTEE AND A CHAIRMAN OF THE SUBCOMMITTEE ON PERSONNEL. WE ALSO UNDERSTAND HE HAS BEEN ACTIVE ON A RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT SUBCOMMITTEE. ADDITIONALLY, HE WAS ACTIVE A FEW YEARS AGO IN THE INTELLIGENCE OVERSIGHT PROCESS WHICH LED TO FORMATION OF OTIS PIKE'S AD HOC COMMITTEE. POSSIBLY, NEDZI WOULD BE INTERESTED IN DAO ACTIVITIES OR IN AN ASSESSMENT OF THE POLISH MILITARY SITUATION.

6. IN SUM, WE THINK YOU WILL FIND THE CONGRESSMAN AN ABLE, SERIOUS-MINDED REPRESENTATIVE AND VISITOR. WE EXPECT HIM TO BE EFFECTIVE IN HIS MEETINGS WITH POLISH OFFICIALS AS WELL AS IN HIS REPRESENTATIONAL FUNCTIONS. THE STAFFERS WE HAVE CONSULTED RECOMMEND THAT HIS SCHEDULE BE ARRANGED JUDICIOUSLY TO PROVIDE A SMOOTH FLOW OF MEETINGS AND TRAVEL AND AVOID EXHAUSTIVE TO-AND-FROING, I.E. DON'T OVERLOAD HIS SCHEDULE.
7. INQUIRY FROM CONGRESSMAN SOLARZ'S OFFICE. WE GOT A CALL FROM THE CONGRESSMAN'S LOCAL OFFICE CONCERNING

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ANNA BERNFELD OF 2365 E. 13TH STREET, NEW YORK. THE
GOP HAS REPORTEDLY CUT OFF HER PENSION ON GROUNDS SHE
RESIDED IN AUSTRIA. SHE HAS DOCUMENTARY EVIDENCE TO
REFUTE THIS WHICH WAS SENT TO THE EMBASSY IN A LETTER
OF MARCH 27 ADDRESSED TO AMBASSADOR DAVIES BY THE CONGRESS-
MAN'S OFFICE. THEY HAVE NO REPLY AND WONDER WHAT
HAPPENED. WE EXPLAINED THAT THE LETTER MIGHT HAVE BEEN
SENT HERE FOR THE AMBASSADOR ON THE ASSUMPTION IT WAS
PERSONAL (WE HAVE BEEN RETURNING SUCH MAIL TO THE EMBASSY
WHEN APPROPRIATE.) SOLARZ'S OFFICE WILL MAIL THE MATERIAL
AGAIN, THIS TIME TO VICTOR WOLF. IF YOU DO ALREADY HAVE
IT, THOUGH, WE WOULD APPRECIATE ANY INFORMATION OR ADVICE
YOU CAN PROVIDE. CHRISTOPHER
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